

CHAIR REPORT
Outreach Committee
Police Conduct Oversight Commission
March 8, 2016

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The Outreach Committee held its first meeting on February 17, 2016. At that meeting we put together a very broad outline for our 2016 Goals. This will be an incredibly busy year for all 7 commissioners. If you learn of events we should attend, please let me know.

Remember I still need word back from the commissioners about staffing our table at Community Connections. We've been busy in February and the beginning of March. For example:

We met with CM Palmisano and she is following our preliminary research on the mental health/co-responder project. She provided some direct connections to the Hennepin County Board and will have her Aide attend a conference call planned for March 10 at 11am in the MLK Conference Room. We are making steady slow progress on this huge and complex project. It is ever changing and has many moving parts.

The Committee of the Whole met on February 10 to hold the final hearing on the reappointment of Chief Harteau and several other key City personnel. There were some very sensitive speakers.

On February 17 CM Palmisano held an open forum in Ward 13 to discuss the Implicit Bias Training the MPD just started. I managed to get 2 commissioners from the CRC to attend. DC Arradondo and several of the officers, who actually doing the training, came to the meeting and answered questions from the crowd later. It was a successful event and the PCOC will be working with Glenn Burt to set up several community meetings to educate everyone on the National Initiative and what we are all trying to accomplish. CM Palmisano told the group that the PCOC would be involved with sustaining the programs from the National Initiative after the DOJ has left.

We've had a good start in building ties with the Police Federation and their President agrees that consistent meetings with the PCOC will build a good relationship and sharing of ideas.

On March 2 the Public Safety Committee voted to repeal the city ordinance about congregating on streets and sidewalks'. There was a small amount of discussion all in favor of the repeal. Also, the MPD presented a framework for how they will educate the community on the Body Camera policy. The City Counsel is pushing a very short time line and wants to hear back from the MPD at the April 6 meeting to see how the PCOC has responded to the

proposed SOP on body cameras. After the meeting, Commissioner Cerrillo and I met with DC Rondo and he acknowledged the MPD would listen to our recommendations. We also made contact with the Christina Kendricks of NCR who will be the planning lead on educating the many diverse communities of Minneapolis.

We met with Commander Schoenberger to discuss how the PCOC can be involved with the Police Academy. Discussions with him have been helpful in focusing research on the Mental Health/co-responder project. We have planned to meet every month.

Sincerely,

Laura Westphal
PCOC Outreach Committee Chair